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LETTER DATED 25 MAY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MOROCCO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the Declaration adopted on 18 May 1995 in Rabat by the Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Contact Group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on Bosnia and Herzegovina (see annex), and to request that you have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ahmed SNOUSSI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

[Original: English and French]

Declaration of the Meeting of Foreign Ministers of the OIC Contact Group on Bosnia and Herzegovina

Rabat, 18 May 1995

1- The Contact Group of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on Bosnia and Herzegovina met at ministerial level in Rabat, Kingdom of Morocco, on 18 May 1995 under the chairmanship of H.E. Abdellatif Filali, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and President of the XXIInd Islamic Conference of Foreign Ministers of the OIC. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers and Heads of Delegations from Morocco, Egypt, Iran, Malaysia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Turkey and the OIC Secretary General. Indonesia and Bangladesh attended the meeting as invitees. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Irtan Ljubijankic and the Minister of Cooperation with the United Nations of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dr. Hassan Muratovic, updated the Ministers on the latest developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2- The Foreign Ministers and Heads of delegation were honoured with an audience with His Majesty Hassan II, King of Morocco and Chairman of the Seventh Islamic Conference. They highly appreciated the inspiring guidelines and action-oriented measures envisaged by His Majesty The King, in the search of a just solution to the problem of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

3- The Ministers noted, particularly that the cease-fire is over, the Security Council is silent, NATO is not willing to act, the International Contact Group is unable to proceed with its own Peace Plan, UNPROFOR has not been able to protect the safe areas. There exists a threat of pull-out by UNPROFOR and the Serbian attacks are on the rise. They observed that this situation has culminated in unprecedented human suffering by the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina in their struggle to maintain its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

4- The Foreign Ministers:

- Condemned the continuation of aggression by the Serbs and their genocidal policy of ethnic cleansing in the occupied territories of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, their intransigent refusal to accept the Peace Plan, their persistent violations of exclusion zones and safe areas of Sarajevo, Gorazde, Zepa, Srebrenica, Bihac and Tuzla, their attacks on civilian population and their hindering of humanitarian supply operations.

- Also condemned the continued breaches of human rights by the Serbs in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as in Sandjak, Kosovo and Vojvodina and urged the relevant international organizations to ensure effective monitoring of human rights.

- Expressed disappointment over the continuation of the policy of appeasement to the Serb aggressors pursued by some members of the United Nations Security Council and deplored all direct and indirect assistance to the Serb aggressors.

- Expressed their deep dismay over the lack of commitment by the mediating Powers to take immediate and resolute action to prevail upon the Serbs to accept the Peace Plan and to stop systematic violations of Security Council resolutions.

5- They recalled the Declaration by the Seventh Islamic Summit on Bosnia and Herzegovina, reiterated their position that arms embargo decreed by the United Nations Security Council neither legally nor morally applies to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

6- The Foreign Ministers welcomed the progress made by the International War Crime Tribunal and encouraged the Tribunal to vigorously carry out its mandate and called upon the international community to lend their maximum possible support to the Tribunal.

7- The Ministers decided to:

a- Call for an urgent special session of the General Assembly and instruct the OIC Contact Group in New York to mobilize support for that purpose with a view to adopting, inter alia, the Five Nation Contact Groups Peace Plan.

b- Instruct the Contact Group in Geneva to continue to meet with the International Contact Group and call for a joint Ministerial meeting.

c- Communicate to the United Nations Secretary-General as well as to specific troop contributing Governments their serious concern over the inability of UNPROFOR to protect the exclusion zones and safe areas and their readiness to contribute further in troops and equipment to ensure effective action by UNPROFOR, particularly in the event of withdrawal of UNPROFOR units.

d- Mobilize assistance for Bosnia and Herzegovina to ensure its legitimate self defence.

e- Pursue the implementation in good faith of the accord between Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as the constitution of the Federation of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

f- Insist on mutual and simultaneous recognition of all newly born States of the former Yugoslavia, as a prerequisite to the suspension of sanctions.

g- Assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in revitalizing its economy with the objective of its self-reliability, in accordance with the Casablanca Resolutions and Declaration on Bosnia-Herzegovina.

h- Mobilize and enhance humanitarian aid to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

8- The Ministers welcomed all efforts aimed at advancing the peace process and decided to follow up closely the development of this issue.

9- The Ministers expressed their deep appreciation to the Government and people of the Kingdom of Morocco for their generous hospitality.